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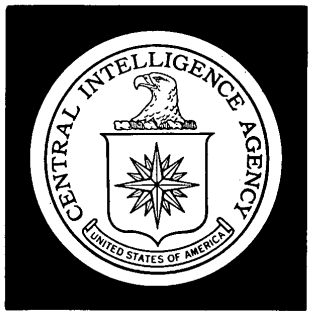

The President's Daily Brief

12 June 1970

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Top Secret

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THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

12 June 1970

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

King Husayn's acquiescence to fedayeen demands for the dismissal of top Jordanian military commanders may encourage fedayeen militants to press for further concessions. *(Page 1)*

Developments in Cambodia are discussed on *Page 3.*

[redacted] 50X1
[redacted] Lao [redacted] 50X1
[redacted] 50X1
[redacted] 50X1
[redacted] *(Page 4)* 50X1

[redacted] 50X1
North Vietnam [redacted] 50X1
[redacted] 50X1
Page 5.

[redacted] South Vietnam [redacted] 50X1
[redacted] 50X1
[redacted] *(Page 7)* 50X1

The European Communities Council has completed preparations for the formal opening of membership negotiations with Britain, Ireland, Denmark, and Norway. *(Page 8)*

Peking [redacted] 50X1 50X1
[redacted] *(Page 8)* 50X1

[redacted] German [redacted] 50X1
[redacted] at Annex. 50X1

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JORDAN-FEDAYEEN

In a message broadcast yesterday evening, King Husayn announced the resignations of the commander in chief of the army--his uncle--and the head of the 3rd Armored Division, both particularly detested by the fedayeen. [redacted] 50X1 50X1 50X1 Husayn declared that the dismissals would secure the implementation of the cease-fire agreement, and that this was the "last chance" for peace between the army and the fedayeen.

Husayn's concessions will almost certainly be popularly interpreted as a defeat for the King, and may well encourage the fedayeen--particularly the more radical elements--to hold out for additional demands. The fedayeen central committee seems to be prepared to go ahead with the implementation of the cease-fire at this stage, however; a central committee bulletin sent early Friday morning indicated that all barricades were to be removed from the streets and those detained by both sides were to be released, including the hostages being held at two of Amman's hotels.

Evacuation of US and other foreign nationals from Jordan remains a problem, however. The Jordanian Army is in control of Amman airport, but difficulties remain in getting US personnel safely to the airport. Five or six planes from Middle East Airlines are available in Beirut, and Jordanian permission has been granted to land, but safe conduct to the airport has not yet been arranged. The Red Cross representative in Amman has been requested to secure the agreement and assistance of the Jordanian Government, and, if necessary, the agreement of the fedayeen to permit evacuation. Evacuation could begin by 1200 Amman time when sufficient Red Cross representatives arrive on the scene to escort US citizens to the airport.

(continued)

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Prior to the latest attempt to implement a cease-fire, [redacted] high-level officials in both Syria and Iraq had assured the commandos that both countries were ready to intervene militarily and to supply arms and equipment. [redacted], some 4,000 fedayeen have already arrived in Jordan from Syria. Jordanian police have been alerted to the possibility that "numerous" Syrian fedayeen forces will attempt to enter the country.

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Meanwhile, representatives of a number of commando and leftist organizations in Lebanon are said to have agreed to hold demonstrations in support of the commandos in Jordan, although the groups apparently intend to avoid provoking the Lebanese authorities into an armed confrontation.

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Cambodia: Current Situation

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CAMBODIA

Government forces remain on the defensive west of the Mekong. The Communists harassed government positions near the Siem Reap airfield with intense artillery and mortar fire yesterday, and may still occupy a portion of the Angkor Wat complex. [redacted] 50X1 50X1

[redacted] 50X1

The pressure against Kompong Thom has eased, but the Communists' tactic evidently is to keep government forces holed up in the city while they infiltrate troops southward into Kompong Chhnang Province. The Communists seem to be extending their influence throughout Preah Vihear Province and are driving to secure the entire area along the province's border with Laos and Thailand.

Large Communist troop concentrations are still being sighted in Svay Rieng Province. [redacted] 50X1 Phnom Penh has no plans for the defense of Svay Rieng after allied forces withdraw from Cambodia. The government is convinced allied troops will not pull out, [redacted] 50X1 most of the six battalions now defending Svay Rieng town are ineffective. 50X1

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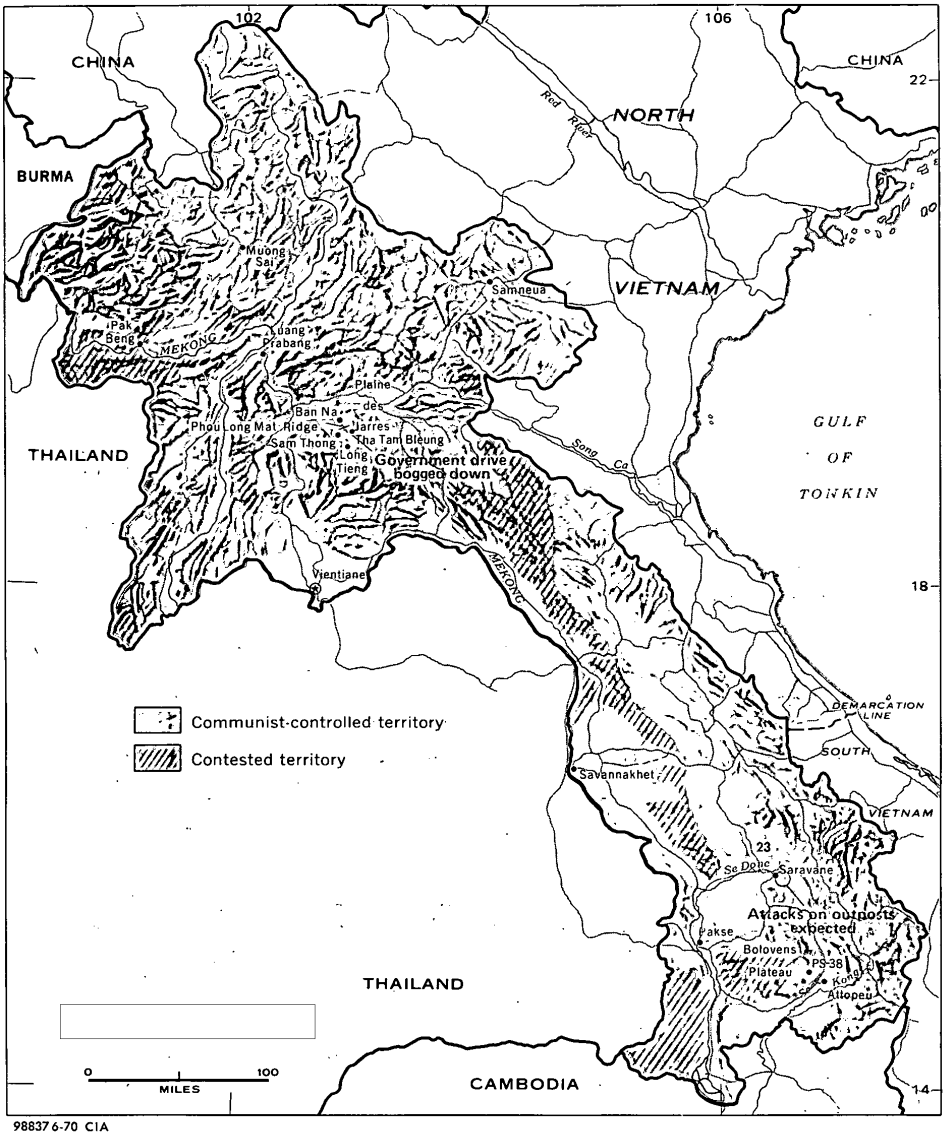
Laos: Current Situation



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LAOS

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In northern Laos, the government drive on Ban Na continues to meet stiff opposition from the Communists. Vang Pao's forces have made no significant progress in the last few days and on 10 June were again engaged in sharp fighting on the Phou Long Mat ridge.

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NORTH VIETNAM

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SOUTH VIETNAM

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NOTES

European Communities - UK: The EC Council has now completed preparations for the formal opening on 30 June of membership negotiations with Britain, Ireland, Denmark, and Norway. The Council has agreed on the economic and financial questions to be raised with the British, on negotiating procedure, and on relations with the non-candidate European Free Trade Association members. The latter will be invited to a ministerial-level meeting in the fall. According to press reports, serious negotiations with the British will begin on 21 July; the other candidates will have their first negotiating session in September.

Communist China: 50X1 50X1

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GERMAN

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ANNEX

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